

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR
2
3
4
5
6

7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 INTERNATIONAL NEWS INC.,

11 Plaintiff, CASE NO. C18-0302-JCC
12 v. ORDER

13 10 DEEP CLOTHING INC.,
14
15 Defendant.

16 This matter comes before the Court on Plaintiff's motions to seal (Dkt. Nos. 88, 91).

17 Plaintiff moves to maintain Docket Numbers 87, 88, 89, and 90 under seal. (*See generally* Dkt. Nos. 88, 91.)

18 The Court starts from the position that “[t]here is a strong presumption of public access to
19 [its] files.” W.D. Wash. Local Civ. R. 5(g). To overcome this presumption, there must be a
20 “compelling reason” for sealing that is “sufficient to outweigh the public’s interest in
21 disclosure.” *Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1179 (9th Cir. 2006).

22 On November 26, 2018, the Court entered the parties’ stipulated protective order, which
23 pertains to commercially and financially sensitive information. (*See* Dkt. No. 28 at 2.) Defendant
24 asserts that the documents at issue contain or relate to Defendants’ confidential financial
25 information, the disclosure of which would harm Defendant’s competitive standing in its
26 industry. (*See* Dkt. No. 92 at 5–7.) Having reviewed the documents, the Court finds that

1 Defendant has met its burden of establishing a compelling reason to maintain them under seal.
2 *See* 26 U.S.C. § 6103(a); *In re Elec. Arts, Inc.*, 298 F. App'x 568, 569 (9th Cir. 2008); *Ross v.*
3 *Bar None Enters.*, 2014 WL 4109592, slip op. at 2 (E.D. Cal. 2014); (Dkt. Nos. 92 at 5–7, 93 at
4 2–3).

5 Therefore, Plaintiff's motions to seal (Dkt. Nos. 88, 91) are GRANTED. The Clerk is
6 DIRECTED to maintain Docket Numbers 87, 88, 89, and 90 under seal until further order of the
7 Court. The parties are ORDERED to file publicly-available, redacted versions of the documents
8 at issue within 14 days of the date this order is issued.

9 DATED this 3rd day of June 2020.



10
11 John C. Coughenour
12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26